

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action dated March 22, 2005, and the reference applied therein (U.S. Patent No. 6,140,918 to Green et al.). In response, applicants have canceled, without prejudice, claims 13-49; amended claims 50-98 to further define the invention. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Applicants believe that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Each of the pending independent claims in the instant application is directed to a mounting foot or assembly which has a signaling device mounted thereto. Green et al. fail to teach or suggest such an arrangement. In fact, Green et al. teach away from the present invention.

In the Background of the Invention, Green et al. state:

A particular problem with existing light bars has been protecting the various light devices from the elements. Water, dirt, and road salt leaking into the light bar can damage the components. In addition, another problem has been the need for flexibility in mounting various emergency light sources with the light bar. At times, these two problems compete with each other and require compromises in light bar design. There is a need for a multi-dimension light bar having a weather-resistant enclosure including multiple levels of emergency light sources and including multiple rows of emergency light sources, which levels and rows include fixtures which can be flexibly mounted in various configurations to provide full coverage in all directions.

U.S. Patent No. 6,140,918, column 1, lines 24-38.

The Green et al. light bar 100 includes a lower lighting layer 118, an intermediate lighting layer 122, and an upper lighting layer 130. *Id.* at column 5, lines 11-27; FIGS. 2 and 3. These three lighting layers are all disposed within the lens body of the light bar 100. *Id.* at FIGS. 3-5. The lens body forms a water-tight compartment within which the lights are housed. In particular, the specification states:

The lens body of the light bar 100 includes three compartments mounted on a frame, each defined by an upper and lower mating lens. The lower portion of the lens body includes lower end lenses 110L, 110R which are mirror images of each other separated by a lower central lens 110C. The upper lens portion of the light bar 100 includes upper end lenses 112L, 112R which are mirror images of each other separated by an upper central lens 14. As is known in the art, each

compartment is formed by upper and lower lens sections which are joined together by latches 116 such as illustrated in co-assigned U.S. Pat. No. 5,091,828, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Preferably, the edges of the upper and lower lenses interfit and have a gasket disposed therebetween to form a watertight compartment.

'918 patent, column 4, line 57-column 5, line 4.

Furthermore, Green et al. teaches that each of the emergency light sources in all of the lighting layers can be mounted to the tubular frame 154. "In particular, the hollow tubular frame 154 may be provided with flanges and/or a bottom section and/or mounting plates which define an intermediate layer and supporting the emergency light sources in the intermediate and lower layers 118, 122, and flanges and/or a top section defining an upper layer above the intermediate layer and supporting the emergency light sources in the upper layer 130." *Id.* at column 6, lines 48-57.

Accordingly, Green et al. teach away from mounting a lighting device (or any other auxiliary device, for that matter) outside of the water-tight compartment formed by the lens body of the light bar. Furthermore, in the illustrated embodiment of the Green et al. light bar, all of the lighting devices are supported by the tubular frame 154. The structure in Green et al. that acts to mount the light bar 100 to a roof 166 of an emergency vehicle (*i.e.*, mounting device 166) does not have a signaling device mounted thereto. *See* '918 patent, column 8, lines 4-28; FIGS. 6A and 6B. Thus, Green et al. fail to teach or suggest the present invention that includes a mounting foot/assembly having an auxiliary device mounted thereto.

Accordingly, the independent claims in the pending claim set of the present application (claims 50, 73, 84, 94, and 98) are patentably distinguishable over the Green et al. patent. The remaining claims depend from the foregoing independent claims and, thus, contain the same patentable features thereof.

Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Filbin", written over a horizontal line.

Paul J. Filbin, Reg. No. 51,677
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
Two Prudential Plaza, Suite 4900
180 North Stetson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60601-6780
(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
(312) 616-5700 (facsimile)

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